

Dear Judiciary Committee,

Please **OPPOSE** S.B. 16: *An Act Addressing Gun Violence and Juvenile Crime*.

The majority of gun crimes in the State of Connecticut are committed by individuals who are not lawful gun owners. Additionally, 70% of the gun offenses in the state are not prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The State's rising crime rate is not due to lawful firearms permit holders, who in Connecticut are subjected to a two step permitting process, which includes background checks from the applicant's local police department, as well as the State police department. An additional background check is made at the point of sale for each new firearm purchased in the State. Legal permitted gun owners are among the most law abiding residents of our State.

Adding additional restrictions on the types of firearms that the lawfully permitted citizens of Connecticut may own and purchase will not have an effect on the crime rate within the State. It should be noted that most gun crimes in this state and nationwide are committed with handguns, and not the type of firearms that this bill seeks to restrict. Legislation which seeks to limit access to certain types of firearms will effect only law abiding citizens, and not criminals hell-bent on obtaining whatever type of firearm they please, outside the purview of the law.

This bill, as proposed, will not reduce the rate of gun crime in our communities, which allegedly is the intent of the bill.

Again, I ask for you to please **OPPOSE** S.B. 16.

In addition, I ask for you to please **OPPOSE** HB 5416, *An Act Concerning Bulk Purchases Of Pistols And Revolvers*.

Please **SUPPORT** S.B 388 *An Act Concerning The Defense Of A Person Or A Person's Dwelling, Place Of Work Or Motor Vehicle*

Please **SUPPORT** H.B. 5415, *An Act Concerning The Transfer Of Assault Weapons And Large Capacity Magazines*

Please **SUPPORT** H.B. 5412, *An Act Concerning The Duty To Retreat In A Religious House Of Worship*

Thank you,

Brian J Martins

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J Martins", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Waterbury, CT